

Appl. No. 10/799,240
Amdt. Dated April 11, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 12, 2006

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 6 with the following paragraph:

— As seen best in FIGS. 1, 4 and 5, various additional components, such as threaded studs 19 and a hollow heating pipe 20 are optionally attached to the upper mandrel member 13 by bolts 46 and 48 to be encapsulated with nickel during the deposition process. Studs or encapsulations 19 are preferably made of steel and are used for the attachment of lifter or tie rods or other mounting devices to hold the NVD deposited articles in place during use. Encapsulations 19 are releasably mounted on the partial female mandrel portions by bolts 46 and as such have female threaded openings adjacent to the partial female mandrel portions. However, encapsulations 19 could have male threaded projections that extend through the wall of the female mold portions and be held in place with nuts.—